

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 12-16 are pending in the present application.

Specification

The Office Action requests that the Specification be revised to a preferred layout and requires that the spacing of the lines be adjusted to 1 ½ or double spaced on good quality paper. Applicants respectfully submit that the Substitute Specification as filed with the Preliminary Amendment dated July 14, 2006 was in proper form and had a line spacing of 1 ½. For the Examiner's convenience, attached hereto is a copy of the Substitute Specification on good quality paper.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 12-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,652,780 ("Stoll").

Stoll describes a process for oxidizing iron ions contained within iron-doped lithium niobate. The process includes protonating the iron niobate crystal, pressurizing the crystal and then, while under pressure, heating the pressure to approximately 950°C at a rate not to exceed 50°C per minute. See Abstract.

